

# Michigan Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant

## Advanced Lighting Technology Demonstration RFP

### Frequently Asked Questions (F.A.Q.)

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## State of Michigan EECBG F.A.Q.

### Eligibility

1. Our community is a general law township. Given that this is a block grant program, are we still eligible?
  - **Yes.**
2. We would like to begin construction work on our project by Sept/Oct of 2011. Does this coincide appropriately with the program's intended release of funds?
  - ***Yes, the grants are expected to commence on August 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. Ability to begin reimbursable work will depend on the diligence of the local project manager who should review the provisions outlined in the RFP when coordinating such a project.***
3. Are the communities that previously received EECBG funding eligible to apply for this grant as well?
  - **Yes.**
4. Would a City Light and Power Company or a school district be eligible for the Advance Lighting Technology Demonstration Grant?
  - ***Only cities, townships, villages and county governments are eligible to apply for EECBG grants. Other entities can participate as project partners that contribute to and/or benefit from the project(s) installed.***
5. Could this grant cover street lighting that is owned and operated by a power company?
  - ***Yes, if applicant/grantee is an eligible local government, the lighting is for the public thoroughfare and all relevant federal requirements can be met.***
6. If a township is currently voting to approve a purchase of LED retrofits, and they otherwise comply with the grant terms, would they be eligible to apply for the grant if the LED order is placed and the project kicked off prior to the grant submission?
  - **No.**
7. Is this grant for non-entitlement communities only or all communities?
  - ***This grant is for both entitlement and non-entitlement communities. However, at least 60% of grant funds will be allocated to non-entitlement communities (see Eligibility Requirements in the RFP).***

## State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) / National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

1. If a project has already been cleared through SHPO and NEPA, does that process need to be started again? (*Example: A streetscape enhancement project cleared for summer construction, with lighting replacement supported by this grant to be completed this fall/winter.*)
  - ***Applications for the Advanced Lighting Demonstration grants would be considered new projects and would need to go through State Historic Preservation review. A separate NEPA review does not apply to this grant solicitation; however a waste management plan will still be needed for each project site.***

## Pre-Proposal Webinar Information

1. Where will the pre-proposal be held?
  - ***The pre-proposal is a webinar. A sign-up sheet will be posted to our website and registrations will be confirmed on a first come, first served basis.***

## Miscellaneous / Other

1. The lights we want to replace are not presently metered. If we are eligible for a grant, we would meter them two months prior to changing the lights to provide electric consumption records. Would this be enough time?
  - ***Yes.***
2. Is there a way to get a list of the non-entitlement communities and counties other than the ones mentioned?
  - ***There is a list of Michigan's entitlement communities posted on the U.S. DOE EECBG webpage. The direct URL follows:***  
***[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/docs/eecbg\\_allocation\\_mi.xls](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/wip/docs/eecbg_allocation_mi.xls)***
3. Same guidelines as last grant?
  - ***Please read the 2011 RFP carefully as there are differences from the previous round of EECBG funding.***
4. I have a municipal client that is interested in converting street lights to LED. Is the EECBG program still alive or coming back?
  - ***Yes, a new round of EECBG grants for Advanced Lighting Technology projects was announced on 5/4/11. A link to a copy of the Request for Proposals can be found on our website home page at [www.michigan.gov/energyoffice](http://www.michigan.gov/energyoffice). Proposals are due by 3 p.m. on May 26, 2011.***

5. If a consultant performs grant administration or grant management on behalf of a small community, should the Financial Information Form (attachment C of the RFP) list the community's Treasurer or the consultant responsible for grant administration?
  - ***All information requested in the Financial Information Form (attachment C) refers to the grant applicant (city, village, township or county) not the consultant.***
6. Is there any advantage to communities working together?
  - ***Yes, there can be. For example, if the community's project is too small to use the minimum \$30,000 award amount, then they may be able to combine projects with one or more adjacent communities to secure a grant. Also, working together is a way to leverage additional funds for the project.***
7. Would parking lot lighting and/or alley way lighting be considered street lighting?
  - ***Both would be considered grant eligible projects***